(e) what is the time-schedule for completion of this project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Mangrol is a minor port and the Ministry has no proposal under consideration for its development. However, Government of Gujarat have sent a proposal to the Ministry of Agriculture for the construction of the second stage of the Fisheries Harbour at Mangrol.

(c) No, Sir. The road link is not a part of the National Highways.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Carriage and Wagons Division at Mughalsarai, Eastern Railways

*131. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in the carriage and wagons division at Mughalsarai, Eastern Railways, a large number of unapproved substitute labourers were engaged for rendering uninterrupted service for the last 5 to 10 years ;

(b) if so, what is the number of such employees including apprenticeship qualified people not being absorbed permanently and at the same time various division people absorbed against class III posts on regular basis by ignoring these people ; and

(c) what steps are being taken to absorb these people on a regular basis ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI (C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (c) At present there are 40 substitutes working in the Carriage and Wagons Department at Mughalsarai Division. All of them are approved Substitutes. They will be considered for absorption alongwith other eligible candidates only against Group 'D' posts as and when vacancies arise.

Blood Trade in Delhi

*132. DR. BAPU KALDATE :
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Indian Express dated the 22nd April, 1992 regarding the blood trade in Delhi and the need for Government's intervention thereto ; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

Statement

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

The news report in the Indian Express dated April 22, 1992 has brought out certain deficiencies in the blood transfusion services in Delhi : viz. the inadequacy of the blood donor movement, in particular, the inability of the Indian Red Cross Society to effectively organise the same all ovre the metropolis; the consequent dependence on the commercial blood banks ; untrained staff ; poor supervision ; and the irrational use of blood.

2. Under the present system voluntary blood collection is the responsibility of the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS). Keeping in view the increasing demand for blood and the phenomenal growth of the city, Government is examining the feasibility of several agencies being given the responsibility on a zonal basis.

3. For the prevention and control of AIDS in India, Government have recently prepared a comprehensive plan of action for funding by the World Bank. Under that project blood safety and the rational use of blood is one of the important components. A priority activity is the promotion of voluntary blood donation so as to gradually phase out the commercial